

interest which, under the definition stated in § 20.2056(c)-1 is considered as having “passed from the decedent” and which under the rules referred to in § 20.2056(c)-2 is not considered as having “passed from the decedent to his surviving spouse.” Interests which passed to a person other than the surviving spouse include interests so passing under the decedent’s exercise, release, or nonexercise of a nontaxable power to appoint. It is immaterial whether the property interest which passed from the decedent to a person other than his surviving spouse is included in the decedent’s gross estate. The term “person other than his surviving spouse” includes the possible unascertained takers of a property interest, as, for example, the members of a class to be ascertained in the future. As another example, assume that the decedent created a power of appointment over a property interest, which does not come within the purview of § 20.2056(b)-5 or § 20.2056(b)-6. In such a case, the term “person other than his surviving spouse” refers to the possible appointees and possible takers in default (other than the spouse) of such property interest. Whether or not there is a possibility that the “person other than his surviving spouse” (or the heirs or assigns of such person) may possess or enjoy the property following termination or failure of the interest therein which passed from the decedent to his surviving spouse is to be determined as of the time of the decedent’s death.

[T.D. 6296, 23 FR 4529, June 24, 1958; 25 FR 14021, Dec. 31, 1960. Redesignated and amended by T.D. 8522, 59 FR 9654, Mar. 1, 1994]

**§ 20.2056(d)-1 Marital deduction; special rules for marital deduction if surviving spouse is not a United States citizen.**

Rules pertaining to the application of section 2056(d), including certain transition rules, are contained in §§ 20.2056A-1 through 20.2056A-13.

[T.D. 8612, 60 FR 43538, Aug. 22, 1995]

**§ 20.2056(d)-2 Marital deduction; effect of disclaimers of post-December 31, 1976 transfers.**

(a) *Disclaimer by a surviving spouse.* If a surviving spouse disclaims an interest in property passing to such spouse

from the decedent, which interest was created in a transfer made after December 31, 1976, the effectiveness of the disclaimer will be determined by section 2518 and the corresponding regulations. For rules relating to when the transfer creating the interest occurs, see § 25.2518-2(c)(3) and (c)(4) of this chapter. If a qualified disclaimer is determined to have been made by the surviving spouse, the property interest disclaimed is treated as if such interest had never been transferred to the surviving spouse.

(b) *Disclaimer by a person other than a surviving spouse.* If an interest in property passes from a decedent to a person other than the surviving spouse, and the interest is created in a transfer made after December 31, 1976, and—

(1) The person other than the surviving spouse makes a qualified disclaimer with respect to such interest; and

(2) The surviving spouse is entitled to such interest in property as a result of such disclaimer, the disclaimed interest is treated as passing directly from the decedent to the surviving spouse. For rules relating to when the transfer creating the interest occurs, see § 25.2518-2(c)(3) and (c)(4) of this chapter.

(c) *Effective date.* The first and second sentences of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section are applicable for transfers creating the interest to be disclaimed made on or after December 31, 1997.

[T.D. 8095, 51 FR 28368, Aug. 7, 1986. Redesignated by T.D. 8612, 60 FR 43538, Aug. 22, 1995, as amended by T.D. 8744, 62 FR 68184, Dec. 31, 1997]

**§ 20.2056(d)-3 Marital deduction; effect of disclaimers of pre-January 1, 1977 transfers.**

(a) *Disclaimer by a surviving spouse.* If an interest in property passes to a decedent’s surviving spouse in a taxable transfer made by a decedent dying before January 1, 1977, and the decedent’s surviving spouse makes a disclaimer of this property interest the disclaimed interest is considered as passing from the decedent to the person or persons entitled to receive the interest as a result of the disclaimer. A disclaimer is a complete and unqualified refusal to accept the rights to which one is entitled.